

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, July 3, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at Seabrook City Hall, 1700 First Street, Seabrook, Texas to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

THOSE PRESENT WERE:

Helen Burton	Chair
Sally Antrobus	Vice-Chair
John Coggeshall	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdal	Member
David Popken (exc.abs.)	Member
Alesia Hammock	Secretary

**1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dori Nelson stated that she was opposed to the new trail and that it should be relocated.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that he received the report from the soil samples for Pine Gully and the Fire Station. He stated that there are almost zero nitrates and very low phosphorus in the soil. He added that the city agreed to pay for the surveys and he will submit those to the two places willing to donate trees.

Ms. Comeaux stated that over the weekend someone running on the trail collapsed and was given CPR by someone from one of the cycling groups.

**2.0 BUSINESS**

**2.1 Update and consideration of the marsh grasses and barrier plants.**

Ms. Burton stated that Public Works would like some input as to what type of plants work best as barriers, the costs and upkeep. Ms. Burton stated that this item should remain on the agenda until the fall or the spring when planting can be pursued. Ms. Tisdal suggested lantana. Ms. Antrobus stated that Mr. Andrew Thomas had suggested rye grass and pine trees.

Ms. Tisdal stated that they should put topsoil down and hydro-mulch right away. Ms. Burton stated that Public Works needed an action plan they could work on as time permits. Ms. Antrobus stated that the baccharis plant and vines take over quickly and should be considered.

**2.2 Update on Texas Parks & Wildlife trail.**

Ms. Burton stated that she received an email from Mr. Popken stating he was in favor of the Wildlife Trail. He said that he is a bird watcher and this is an excellent bird habitat. Ms. Tisdal stated that she liked the trail and the fact that the big trees were left standing,

but the map was confusing and they needed to clarify it. Ms. Antrobus stated that she was opposed to the configuration of the trail and too much was cleared.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that according to city staff the only option they had for the trail at this time was to connect to Friendship Park through the new land acquired by the city. The new trail was approved by City Council and an effort was made to save all the large trees.

Ms. Tisdell stated that they needed to make the map more accurate, check the trail and eliminate the spurs.

Motion was made by Ms. Tisdell

To look at where the trails are going and eliminate any unnecessary trails that are outside the map.

MOTION FAILS DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.

Motion was made by Ms. Tisdell and seconded by Ms. Antrobus

To have the committee consider what was cut since the map was drawn and see what trails they want to keep.

Ayes: Antrobus and Tisdell

Nays: Burton, Coggeshall, Comeaux, and Harper

MOTION FAILS.

Ms. Burton stated that there has been a delay in the construction of the bridges due to the weather.

**2.3 Consider a “no parking” zone where the trail nearest Pine Gully emerges from the woods at the pier parking lot.**

Motion made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Harper

To add a “No Parking Zone” to the Public Works Action Item List.

MOTION CARRIES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.4 Consider extending the trail that ends a few yards short of Park Drive so that it connects to the trail along Friendship Park.**

Ms. Burton stated that she had spoken with Public Works and they said that it would be better to lay a sidewalk there.

Motion made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Harper

To add “Connect trail that ends a few yards short of Park Drive to the trail along Friendship Park with a sidewalk” to the Public Works Action Item List.

MOTION CARRIES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.5 Consideration of the new trail that runs through Wildlife Park.**

No action taken.

**2.6 Reconsider park assignments.**

Ms. Burton asked to table this item until the August Meeting.

**2.7 Consider acquiring and placing trash cans along the trails.**

Motion made by Ms. Tisdell and seconded by Ms. Harper

To add dog bag dispensers at all of the parks and a trashcan at Robinson Park at Todville by the new benches.

MOTION CARRIES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.8 Consider advisability of a dog park.**

Move item to August meeting.

**2.9 Consider updates on the previously discussed items.**

- **Park benches** – Ms. Burton stated that there were two new park benches. One will be placed near the iron bridge.
- **Dow grant** – Ms. Burton stated that they had received \$5,000 for bleachers at the Little League Park and Meador Park and staff has an additional \$5,000 for the base.
- **Little Free library** – Ms. Burton stated that the library was vandalized but the books were not hurt.
- **Trees** – Mr. Coggeshall stated that he had the soil report and would send it to the proper people to get more trees.

**3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS**

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Harper suggested Indian hawthorne for the bigger section of the three circles and wildflowers for the smaller sections.

3.2 Approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Harper and seconded by Ms. Tisdell

To approve the minutes from the June 5, 2014 meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

3.3 Consider Action Items Checklist which is attached and made a part of this agenda.

Ms. Burton stated that she should present the Open Space report to City Council on July 15th. Ms. Harper stated that an oak tree at Robinson Park needs to be moved. Mr. Coggeshall stated that he is working on a proposal for the wetlands information sign at Robinson Park. Ms. Burton stated that they needed to add an Action Items List for staff.

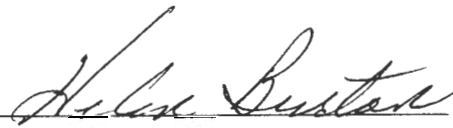
3.4 Consider upcoming meeting dates and agenda items.


The next meeting date is scheduled for August 7, 2014.

Agenda items will include:

- Marsh grasses and barrier plants
- Texas Parks & Wildlife trail
- Park assignments
- Dog Park

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

  
Helen Burton, Chair

  
Alesia Hammock, Secretary